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the MARTLET

www.martlet.ca may 15th, 2003. 56/01 flying without feet for fifty-six years

CHOKE A TEN PAGE PAPER BY MONDAY?! BUT WHAT ABOUT VIKKY'S BEACH PARTY? ...DEREK, I'M DROPPING THAT CLASS! NO CREDIT IS WORTH MISSING THAT!!
CAROL! NO!! SUMMER IS NO TIME FOR FUN! I WON'T LET YOU DROP THAT CLASS! WE'LL DO THAT PAPER TOGETHER, AFTER ALL, I'VE GOT... SPELLCHECK!
OH, DEREK!

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Now introducting the UVSS austerity program

by John Thompson

Ah, the life of summer studies at UVic! As if sunshine, frisbee and frolicking bunny rabbits weren't reasons enough to stay outdoors. Nevertheless, students now have one more excuse to stay outside, with the UVic Student Society (UVSS) cutting back the hours of operation of the Student Union Building (SUB).

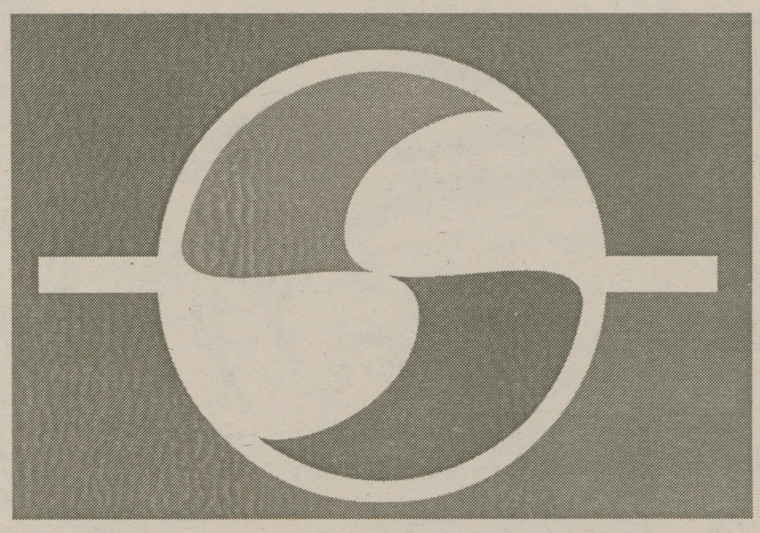
The student union was projecting a budget surplus for the past fiscal year. Now it looks like they're still bleeding, with an expected $46-50,000 loss. As a result, business hours have been cut and large portions of the building will be closed over the weekend.

Out of service

Students looking to get their bus-passes validated will find the Info Booth is only open from 9-2pm. The general office is also running on reduced hours.

As far as grub's concerned, like last year, the Health Food Bar is closed this summer. However, this year Felicitas will remain open for lunch. The International Grill will be open from 11-3 p.m., while Bean There is open from 8-6 p.m.

Last year was meant to be a turning point for the UVSS. They have struggled to make their business operations profitable since a routine audit in mid-October, 2001, revealed their budget was out by hundreds of thousands of dollars. The general manager was fired, the campus nightclub, Vertigo, closed its doors, and a warrant was issued for the arrest of the business manager at the time, Vivek Sharma. Over a 24-month period, now-General Manager Marne Jensen estimates the society lost $550,000.



The assimilation will be swift and painless.

Now, with their insurance and banking costs going up, Jensen hopes recent changes will help increase revenue and reduce costs.

More ads

In the fall, students can look forward to more advertising in washroom stalls inside the SUB. The UVSS has signed an exclusivity deal with Zoom Media to place ads inside the building for five years, with a minimum of 50 ads going up in washroom stalls around the building. In return, the society receives $10,000 a year, along with a number of perks, including a $10,000 signing bonus.

"We know that not everyone is going to be happy with it, but with the revenue we'll be getting, it's an offer we couldn't refuse," said Director of Finance Joanna Groves. She added that each ad will be reviewed by two student union directors, to avoid ads that students could find offensive. The deal was approved by the UVSS board in the spring.

How does the deal compare with the private sector? The SUB washroom ads break down to $16.67 per ad/month, while Logan's and Steamers both garner $15 ad/month from their deal with NewAd.

Zoom will also contribute an annual bursary of $1,500 per year for student financial aid. The downstairs of the building and the third-floor will remain ad-free.

In addition, four more ads will be placed by the bar inside Felicita's, at $1,600 per year.

Lockout

"Due to our ongoing financial difficulties, the SUB will be closed on weekends over the summer beginning May 3, 2003," reads a recent memo sent by Jensen out to various student groups.

By closing the building early, at 10 p.m. on weeknights, and locking the downstairs during the weekend, she expects to save the student union $6,000 over the summer. The basement is the home of various student groups, from The Students of Colour Collective (SOCC) and Native Students Union (NSU) to the Martlet and CFUV Radio.

"I think that while it's obviously going to reduce student access to the building, hopefully it won't be too disruptive," said Jensen.

Rubina Sidhu, a representative of the Students of Colour Collective, said their members often use the office as a safe space over the weekend to organize events and meet. Considering they pay rent and maintenance fees, she said the decision is frustrating.

"We pay rent. We pay triple net. That's what aggravates us," she said. "It's almost a lack of respect for what we do."

Gordon de Frane is a writing and English student from the NSU who uses their office "to come up for quiet time," and for PC access. He described the decision to lock the basement as "two-tiered access to the building."

"Some of us will have access to the SUB, and some of us won't," he said, adding the NSU office is well used. "There's always somebody here. When I came up today, there was already someone here. It's a well-used space."

Director of Services Scott Payne said the UVSS board is planning to meet with groups affected by the decision.

"We're pretty hopefully we'll be able to come to some sort of resolution," he said.

Spoof

Elusive new Martlet staff found!

Construction of The Death Star underway

by Danielle Prokop

Amidst the ever encroaching warm weather of June there has been a noticible lack of personnel around *the Martlet* office.

Could this be due to the annual May staff change-over, which leaves new Martleteers squinting blindly around the SUB basement like baby moles searching for their burrows? Or maybe this emptiness can be attributed to the breeze of lazy days wafting through the cracks of our office windows.

But no, a much more sinister reason is behind this mysterious absence, and photographic evidence has been obtained.

The Martlet has decided to capitalize on the Canadian University Press' (CUP) Death Star R&D (research and development) fund by building a replica of the planet-destroying weapon of Star Wars lore.

"We thought about nuking the student union, but then we realized we wouldn't have much to report on," said Editor-in-Chief John Thompson, who refused to further comment on the purpose of building such a deadly weapon.

The Martlet expects the full-alloted amount of one dollar will be given to them by CUP straightaway, as construction has been the primary focus of the new staff.

Managing Editor Jeb Gordon spoke confidently on the descision to focus attention on this grueling task.

"Seeing the funds available on the CUP balance sheet, *the Martlet* has decided to take advantage of this fund and bankroll our Death Star construction," he said, dismissing questions of fiscal irresponsibility.

"The Death Star development project has been a labor of love, and as such cannot be measured in terms of time commited," he said.

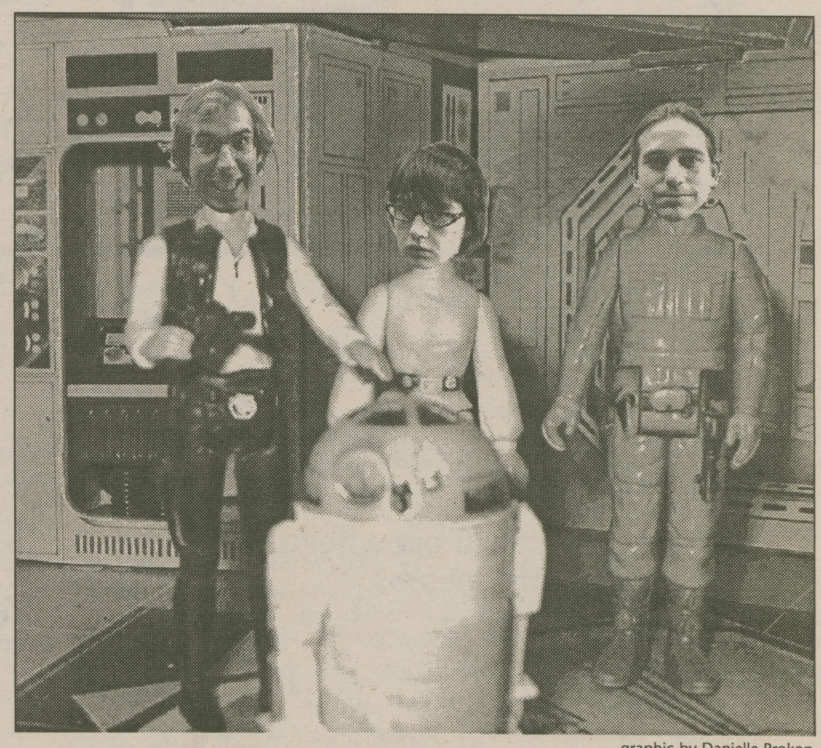
"Besides, do you see what these figurines are going for on eBay these days! Oh my sweet Greedo, how sad to let you go."

With the nuisiance of producing the first issue of the *Martlet* out of the way, Jeb says a final crunch effort will be placed on the Death Star project.

"We are approximately fifty per cent complete on the project, and with the acquisition of the CUP funds, we believe the second phase of construction can be completed on schedule–and under budget," he adds cheerfully.

It looks like the little paper from the basment of the SUB is poised to take on the galaxy, with the backing of newspaper rats from across the country. Total takeover seems immanent, and with the capital in place we may just be packing our bags for some distant moon before the summer is up.

The Martlet has an excess **swag** problem. (Read: free CDs, books and more.) So, to deal with our **swag** problem we ve made an executive decision to hold a contest. But how do I win? you ask. Well, just send us an email to **martlet@uvic.ca** and in 50 words or less tell us why you need some **swag**. Or, just come by the office and tell us. The prize? Two picks from our swag pile of CDs and books.



graphic by Danielle Prokop

Even R2-D2 is no match for the new Martlet Staff! Look out little guy!

2003/2004>>
THE MARTLET
UVIC'S STUDENT PAPER

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The Martlet is an incorporated B.C. society and a full member of Canadian University Press (CUP). We strive to act as an agent of constructive social change and we will not print racist, sexist, homophobic or otherwise oppressive copy.

letters: *the Martlet* has an open letters policy and will endeavour to print every letter received from the university community, with priority given to undergraduate students. Letters must be typewritten, submitted on disk or by e-mail and include your name and student number for verification. Letters must be 20,000 words maximum. Deadline for letters is noon on the Friday before publication date. Letters will be prioritized by order received. Letters with pseudonyms or group names will not be printed.

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The Martlet publishes monthly through the summer. We strongly advise against eating expired foods of any kind, in any combination, with or without nutella.

Editorial:

So, what's your superpower?

It's a superhero summer. The X-Men. The Hulk. The Matrix. And, when you navigate past those Supersized food troughs (when did movie theatres become theme parks?) it's impossible to escape what's crawling everywhere. Advertising. It drips from the walls, the screen, coating everything like a greasy film of simulated margarine.

You might as well get used to the taste, though, with new advertisements going up inside the Student Union Building's washroom stalls. And it's *the Martlet's* fault, at least in part.

Y'see, when student directors discussed the idea this Spring, then-Finance director Jonas Gifford defended the cash-grab by citing a Martlet article written our new editor.

It denounced "advertising prudes" on campus who've gotten uppidy over the beer and tobacco ads that help bankroll this paper. It also suggested most Martlet readers are smart enough to make decisions for themselves, rather than enlist in the Canadian military with a six-pack of beer in one hand and a pack of smokes in the other, based solely on ads they've absorbed through their pores.

With a smirk, Gifford said he couldn't imagine *the Martlet* being too critical of the washroom advertising.

Damn.

Well, so much for occupying the moral highground. And with the tobacco ads we'll be running after this issue, for the rest of the summer, we're a far cry from being anti-corporate superheroes ourselves.

Activists from the *Adbusters* school of thought argue how ads demonstrate how corporate baddies encroach on public space. Take the Pepsi exclusivity deal on campus as case in point.

On the upshot, maybe this reveals the influence, and responsibility, of the student press. But are student unions and newspapers really the same? Like it or not, advertising has always been a part of newspapers. The same can't be said about student unions, or, for that matter, bathrooms.

We live in a superhero world–or so popular culture tells us–where questions about moral clarity and ambiguity should be clear-cut. But often they're not.

Take *the Martlet*, a newspaper named after a mythological bird with no feet.

So, what is *the Martlet:* superhero or supervillain? We'll let you decide. Better yet, come on by our office in the darkest depths of the SUB and give us a hand.

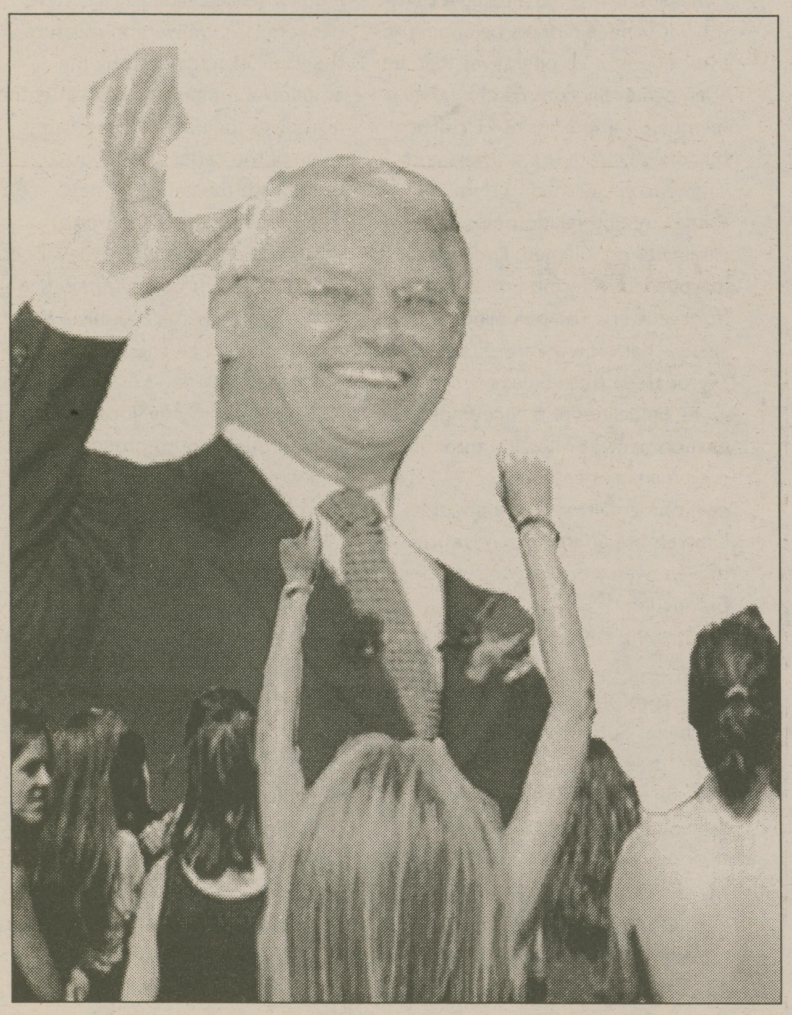
X-ray vision or superhuman strength are assets, but aren't required.

graphics by graham stark

Student voice

Day of Defiance:

Rebuilding the resistance movement in British Columbia



Like an end-boss of a video game that just keeps busting your thumbs.

by Erik Haensel

By the time you read these words the Day of Defiance will have begun. (Actually, if you were not keen enough to grab the new Martlet on the first day, it might already be over.)

You might have seen barricaded entrances, public services shut down, streets blocked, or offices occupied. Just a random array of dissent, one might suppose.

And rightly so, one could imagine that with the amount of drastic cuts that the Campbell government has made to health care, education, and other social services, that a great variety of groups would be eager to display their displeasure.

But if you think more about what you are seeing, the consistent organized nature of the actions, the coinciding protest, the calm confidence of the activists, you might begin to suppose that something more was going on than a random conglomerate of actions.

Something was.

The Day of Defiance is part of a well organized, targeted, resistance movement, which is organized by the Community Solidarity Coalition (CSC), as a purposeful disruption of day-to-day business.

The CSC is a broad coalition of different interest groups who have united "in solidarity, standing in defense of the right of citizens to a decent and healthy life" (Clarion, May).

The CSC's official paper, or "Organ of the Mobilization for Justice," as they call it, *the Clarion*, calls the Day of Defiance "an 'escalation' in how protests are traditionally organized."

The 'escalation' is two-fold: the first change is in the type of action, the second is its goals.

Unlike traditional protests, the focus of the Day of Defiance is not upon attaining the attention of the media, and/or public representatives, through large demonstrations. Instead a disparate array of disruptive tactics have been spread out to diverse locations in order to shut down symbolic parts of the city.

The idea behind these actions is that our current political representatives in this province are not willing to listen to the public, and they need to be forced to respect the needs of non-wealthy citizens.

Thus, even though May 15th itself will raise the profile of those affected by the continual ruthless cuts to social services, it is only one step down the path towards a province-wide general strike.

This being the case, the organization of this particular action is very much part of the growth of the movement itself: the ability to organize many different local interest groups and individuals is the greatest asset of the CSC.

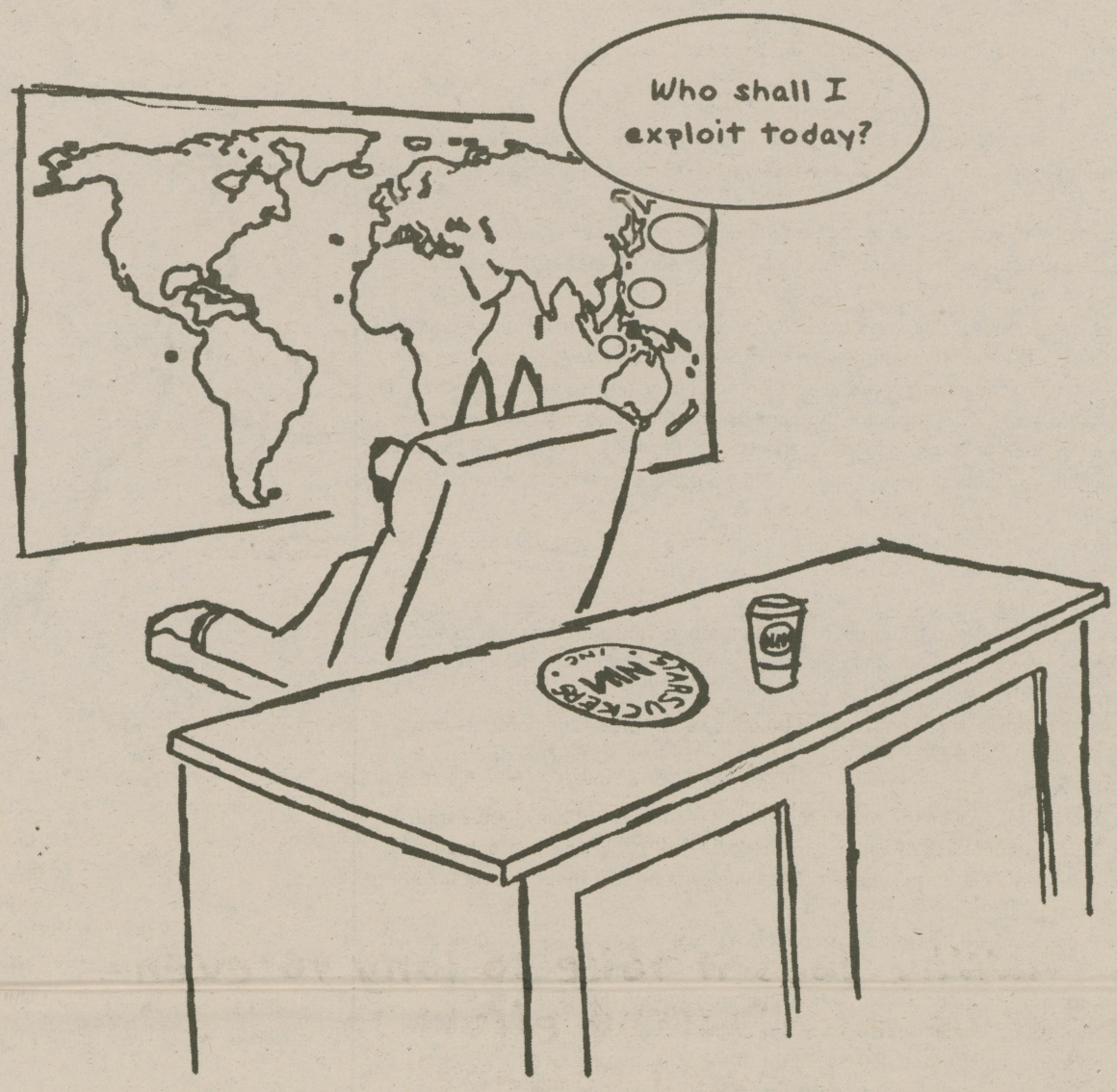
While talking to Shane and Kim, two CSC organizers, about how the planning was coming, Shane said "all their internal goals had already been reached."

"[The CSC] is building the resistance movement back up," said Shane. "We are allowing people to gain more confidence and skills."

Erik Haensel is the UVSS director of academics.

It's 7 a.m.

Do you know where your coffee comes from?



by Roy Vizer

As she stands in line at Finnerty's, the university's Starbucks dealer, UVic student Sarah Olson notices the label on one coffee urn that catches her eye. It reads, "Fair Trade Blend." Her curiosity piqued, she steps up to the spout and pours herself a cup, then slides on a 60 per cent recycled 'java jacket' and walks over to the thermos of two per cent milk, pouring enough milk to turn the coffee a rich khaki colour. She stirs in two packets of raw sugar, grabs a lid and darts off hastily to class. She makes it to class with two minutes to spare, sits down and takes a sip. "Ahhh, liquid crack."

The lecture on globalization in her environmental studies class begins, and as the caffeine shakes away the early morning cobwebs while the clock ticks slowly past nine, she thinks to herself, "What is Fair Trade coffee? Why did I never notice it before? What was the other stuff I was drinking?"

o o o

As virtuous Victorians gear up for May 11th-17th's 'Fair Trade Week,' the timing couldn't be better for locals to educate themselves on what Fair Trade (FT) coffee is and how it affects the world we live in.

Recently, Oxfam Victoria representative Sarah Cassidy took to the streets to inform people on the immoral practices that might lie behind their seemingly harmless cup of joe.

By selling FT coffee for 2 cents a cup on Government Street downtown, Cassidy demonstrated how little some coffee-growers are paid for their beans. The project opened a few eyes, but Cassidy hopes to really raise public accountability and awareness this week.

"I want people to start looking behind the products they're buying," she says.

Fair what?

To clarify, Fair Trade Certified coffee is a term given to coffee that satisfies the International Fair Trade criteria for being a more 'ethical' way of producing and exporting coffee.

According to Transfair USA, Fair Trade Certified coffee guarantees that producers earn at least $1.26 US per pound of coffee, or 5¢ above the prevailing market price. For organically grown FT coffee, growers get a base price of $1.41 US or 15¢ above the market value.

Transfair Canada uses similar principles as the US, but instead of having fixed prices for beans, they just specify that growers must be paid a minimum price that covers the costs of production.

Growers of FT coffee must run their farms according to Fair Trade principles. Farms must be collectively run with coffee farmers belonging to associations or co-operatives that are "democratically controlled by their members." Importers of FT coffee buy directly from the growers and "agree to establish long-term and stable" trading relationships. This eliminates middlemen, known as 'coyotes' from taking profits away from growers. The guidelines also ensure that growers are extended a line of credit from buyers.

FT guidelines also encourage environmental protection through crop management and environmentally sensitive practices. Growers are offered incentives to move towards organic coffee production.

Growing coffee is hard work. In order to grow high-quality coffee, growers must pick the tiny cherry-like beans at the peak of ripeness, wash them thoroughly and run them through a de-pulper. Beans must then again be carefully washed of their mucous coating and dried in the sun for two to three days. Throughout the process growers must be aware of changing weather, sunlight and the shade that the beans are exposed to.

Beans and Big Business

Curious about how fair FT really is, journalist Dave Ransom travelled to Peru to observe this growing process first-hand. In his book, "The No-Nonsense Guide to Fair-Trade," he writes: "If we were to measure the value of something by the amount of human care and attention it receives then by far the greatest value of the coffee bean would reside with the coffee farmer."

So, if a commodity's worth should be determined by the labour that goes into producing it, why do coffee shops charge roughly $15 for a pound of coffee and even under FT guidelines only pay $1.26?

More importantly, if companies like Starbucks are so proud that once in a while they sell a pot or two of FT coffee, why don't they sell it everywhere and every day? Only at UVic's Finnerty Express do they sell FT coffee every day. At other Starbucks locations, FT coffee is usually brewed only once a month, or if a customer specifically asks for it.

As the world's second most valuable, legally traded commodity (oil is first), with 25 million producers in over 70 countries worldwide, why does it take so long to even muster up a half-assed effort to sell fairly brewed coffee?

Perhaps it's because over half of the market for raw coffee beans is

Coffee consumption in Canada

- 67 per cent of Canadians drink coffee every day
- The average coffee drinker consumes three cups a day
- Coffee represents 18 per cent of all beverages consumed in Canada, second only to tap water
- 74 per cent of all coffee consumed is roast and ground, 20% is instant and 6 per cent is specialty
- 52 per cent of coffee is consumed in the morning hours
- 19 per cent of coffee is consumed at dinner, or in the evening
- 69 per cent of all coffee is consumed at home
- 13 per cent is consumed at work or school, 12 per cent in restaurants
- 9 per cent of total coffee consumed is decaffeinated

From The Coffee Association of Canada

controlled by five companies: Kraft, Nestle, Sara Lee, Proctor and Gamble and the German company Tchibo. Critics point out these massive conglomerates have such an efficient profit machine churning that they've been able to reject FT coffee so far, opting for public relations firms and commercials rather than giving in to current moral trends.

Adding to the strain on coffee growers is a recent flooding of the market, causing prices to plummet by 50 per cent over the past three years.

In the big-business coffee trade, the bulk of profits stay with the big businesses, according to Oxfam. Supermarkets mark up prices an average of 25 per cent while shippers and roasters mark prices up approximately 55 per cent for their part in the coffee trade. Growers hover around 10 per cent of returns and that has to cover all their expenses.

The jolly green coffee giant

Starbucks has gotten wise to the growing popularity of FT, jumping on the bandwagon with a handful of pamphlets and booklets that outline the "Social Responsibility" of the company and their "Commitments to Origins."

The earth-tone, map-covered brochure banks on slogans like: "You can make a difference too," and "Every time you purchase Starbucks you're helping to improve people's lives and encouraging conservation where our coffee is grown."

Coming from a company that only sells FT coffee once a month (unless requested), charges a hefty price for it and had net earnings of over $215 million last year, this seems more like a marketing scheme than a genuine attempt to promote economic equality.

In Starbuck's defence though, there likely aren't enough FT beans to supply FT coffee year-round. There are only 200 coffee co-operatives and about 675,000 growers, according to the International Fair Trade Labeling Organization, compared to the millions of non-FT coffee growers. The gap is vast, but market pressure towards FT will dictate where the coffee trade goes next.

Global village, local vendors

Stacy Toews, a local FT advocate and co-founder of Levelground trading, expects multinationals will mostly ignore FT. That's fine by him–Toews says the FT coffee market has grown by 20 per cent annually in Canada , and that the best way to back FT is to support the companies that are already sell it. "It's the way of the future," he says.

That means a niche market for franchises like Bean Around the World, who have offered organic beans for a few years now and since November sells two varieties of FT beans. Selling "very well" at about $13 a pound, these beans are below what most companies charge for non-FT beans. According to barrista Emily Stuible, "Our FT beans offer a combination of ethics and flavour."

Nestled behind Market Square on Pandora Street, David Cardinal's Solstice Cafe has already taken a full-time approach to FT coffee. "All my coffee is organic and FT," he says. He made the decision to go strictly 'ethical' about a year and a half ago when he opened the café, and he says he has no regrets.

He admits that FT coffee is "slightly less-profitable," but adds, "many of my customers find it important and the rest don't even notice." At competitive prices ranging from $1.25-1.75 per cup and under $15 a pound, who would notice?

Cardinal buys his coffee from Kicking Horse, a coffee roasting company that runs out of Invermere, B.C. and imports beans from around the world. According to Cardinal, business is good and some customers, including a "healthy crowd from UVic," come out of their way to sip at the Solstice Cafe.

On campus at UVic, Finnerty's and Bean There supply FT coffee every day.

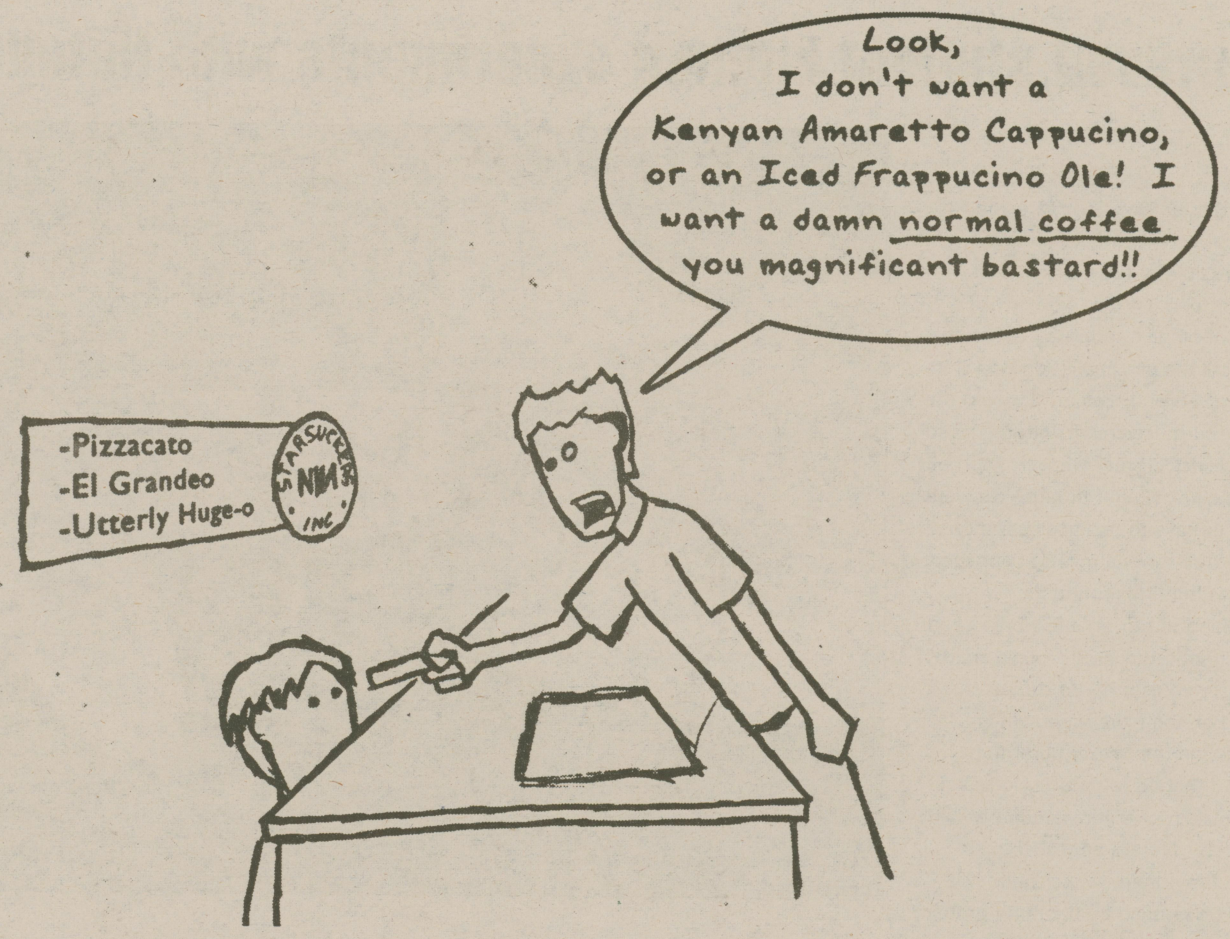
At Finnerty's, some barristas like Edan Marulanda make an extra effort to sell FT coffee. Since about a year ago, when they started selling FT coffee, Marulanda says that the popularity of the coffee has gone up and that he personally tries to promote it. "I keep the coffee until close," he says.

At Bean There a 'dark-roast fair-traded, organic, bird-friendly 100 per cent Arabica coffee' is sold right next to the 'normal' lighter roast. Both varieties cost the same.

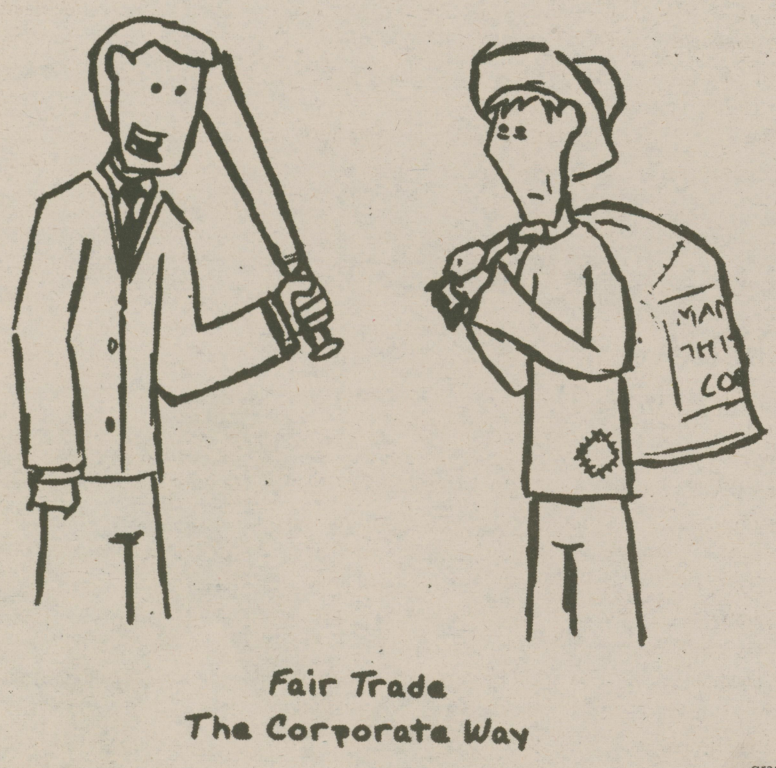
At Cincenta's Munchie Bar, Torrefazaione coffee is served. The brew isn't fair trade, and recently Torrefazaione's parent company, Seattle's Best Coffee, was bought up by Starbucks. But at the Munchie Bar taste comes first, according to Carlin Dunsmoor-Farley. "This is good coffee. If Torrefazaione comes up with fair-trade coffee that would be good too."

o o o

After sorting out what fair-trade coffee really is, Sarah Olson now regularly fuels up with the more ethical blend. In fact when she's not at school and she hits up Starbucks, she always asks them to brew up some Fair Trade. "It lets them know that people do care about where their coffee comes from."



"...Why does it take so long to even muster up a half-assed effort to sell fairly brewed coffee?"



graphics by Graham Stark

Local Fair Trade Providers

MARKET ON YATES
903 Yates St.
Victoria, British Columbia
Tel: (250) 381-6000

MOUNT DOUGLAS MARKET
4101 Shelbourne St.
Victoria, British Columbia
Tel: (250) 477-1634

PEPPERS FOODS
3829 Caboro Rd
Victoria, British Columbia
Tel: (250) 477-6513

SECOND STORY BOOKS & CAFE
579 Johnson Street
Victoria, British Columbia

SOLSTICE CAFE
529 Pandora Ave
Victoria, British Columbia
Tel: (250) 475-0477

SUTHERLAND, PAUL
Distributor for Vancouver Island
Tel: (250) 382-6612

TEN THOUSAND VILLAGES
2030 Oak Bay Ave.
Victoria, British Columbia
Tel: (250) 598-8183

TEN THOUSAND VILLAGES
330-777 Royal Oak Drive
Victoria, British Columbia
Tel: (250) 727-7281

THRIFTY FOODS
Admiral's Road, Broadmead, Central Saanich, Cloverdale, Colwood, Fairfield, Hillside, James Bay, Mill Bay, Quadra and McKenzie, Saltspring Island and Sidney.
Toll Free: 1-800-667-8280

TRUVALUE FOODS
7108 West Saanich Road
Brentwood Bay, British Columbia V0S 1A0
Tel: (250) 652-1652

From Transfair Canada's website

Cooking with Nuts

Depraved student kitchen experiments with Nutella go mad!

by Rich Cole

photo by John Thompson

One student's snack is another student's entire food base.

Last semester, my roommate and I were trapped in case-lot purgatory.

Our cupboards were scattered with random food left over from a year's worth of bargain shopping. After eating all the pineapple tidbits in shit-mix omelets and scoffing down all the freezer burnt ice cream with the last of the bulk rice crispies we were fresh out of ideas. Just when I thought we were going to have to sacrifice beer money and hit the store, a miracle happened.

I was hunting around for something to put on a few bread ends when I noticed a jar of Nutella amidst the assorted cans in our cabinet. I spread on the Nutella and when I chewed on the freezer burnt toast I realized that I'd found the Holy Grail. The Final Frontier for warehouse shoppers. Nutella appealed to all sides of my brain. My scientific side could be satisfied by the nutty protein, while my artsy side was pleasantly aroused by who knows what else was in the jar. But most of all, I barely even noticed the stale toast.

Then, for the last few weeks of school, innovative Nutella chefery became our ticket out of Costco hell. Here are a few recipes. Some were better received than others.

NUTELLA AND VEGGIES
Last of a monster bag of veggies
3 tablespoons of Nutella
Simmer in a saucepan and serve to roommate.

Chis: "Dude, this isn't bad. The Carrots are great."
Me: "Ya, it's pretty decent, even the mushy peas taste okay."
Our rating: 4 Nutella jars out of 5

NUTELLA SMOOTHY
Remaining case-lot strawberries
1 Black Banana
Last of the protein powder
1 Maltnut Power bar
1/4 cup of Nutella
Blend and blend and blend some more, but that damned Nutella does not mix under cold temperatures. The wonderfudge gets frozen and clumpy, making it nearly impossible to chew.

Chris: "I can't get this Nutella out of my teeth, I have to keep chewing. I feel like a dog eating peanut butter."
Rich: "Yeah, but that black banana gives it a nice flavor."
3 jars of Nutella out of 5

NUTALIBAN
1 bag of Ichiban missing the MSG packet
Some more Nutella

Chris: "This looks wrong."
Me: "I slave all day over a hot stove and all I get is lip? Just try it."
Chris takes a few bites: "Dude, why didn't you just use butter instead? This tastes weird.
Me: "Cmon." (I try it). "Yuck, chocolate Chinese food."
2 Nutella jars out of 5

FISHTELLA
Remaining Captain Hindgrinder Fish Sticks
6 Month old tartar sauce
Nutella
Bake fish sticks, mix tartar sauce and Nutella together.

Chris: "Dude, this is just sick. Why did you mix tartar and Nutella?"
Me: "Because we have to get rid of them both. C'mon eat up."
Chris: "No!"
Me: "Okay, well forget the mix and just dip a stick in the Nutella jar."
Chris dips: "This tastes like fishy cholcolate. Yuck. No more."
1 Nutella jar out of 5

NUTELIOS
One can of Spaghettios
3 teaspoons of Nutella
Combine, then nuke for 2 minutes.

Chris: "Dude. Chocolate and tomato sauce is a bad combo. But I'm too hungry to say no." (Takes another bite)
3 Nutella Jars out of 5

HUEVOS NUTELLOS
4 Eggs from an overdue "super family pack"
2 Freezer Burnt Tortillas
Some Nutella
Spread Nutella onto Tortilla, add fried eggs and roll up.

Chris: "I can't believe it. This actually tastes wicked."
Me: "This is the one. My opus. Hearty yet tasty."
Chris: "Yah man. Eggs and Nutella. Sounds bad but tastes great. Way to go. I declare you a Nutella chef."
5 Nutella jars out of 5

By the end of the semester our cupboards were bare. Nutella was the universal solvent that helped clean us out of case-lot hell. I even managed to make one great breakfast recipe out of it. This is fitting really. Apparently Nutella itself was an accident. Due to WW2, Italians remedied their cocoa shortage by adding nuts to chocolate. Yup, necessity (or a cheap student) is the mother of invention.

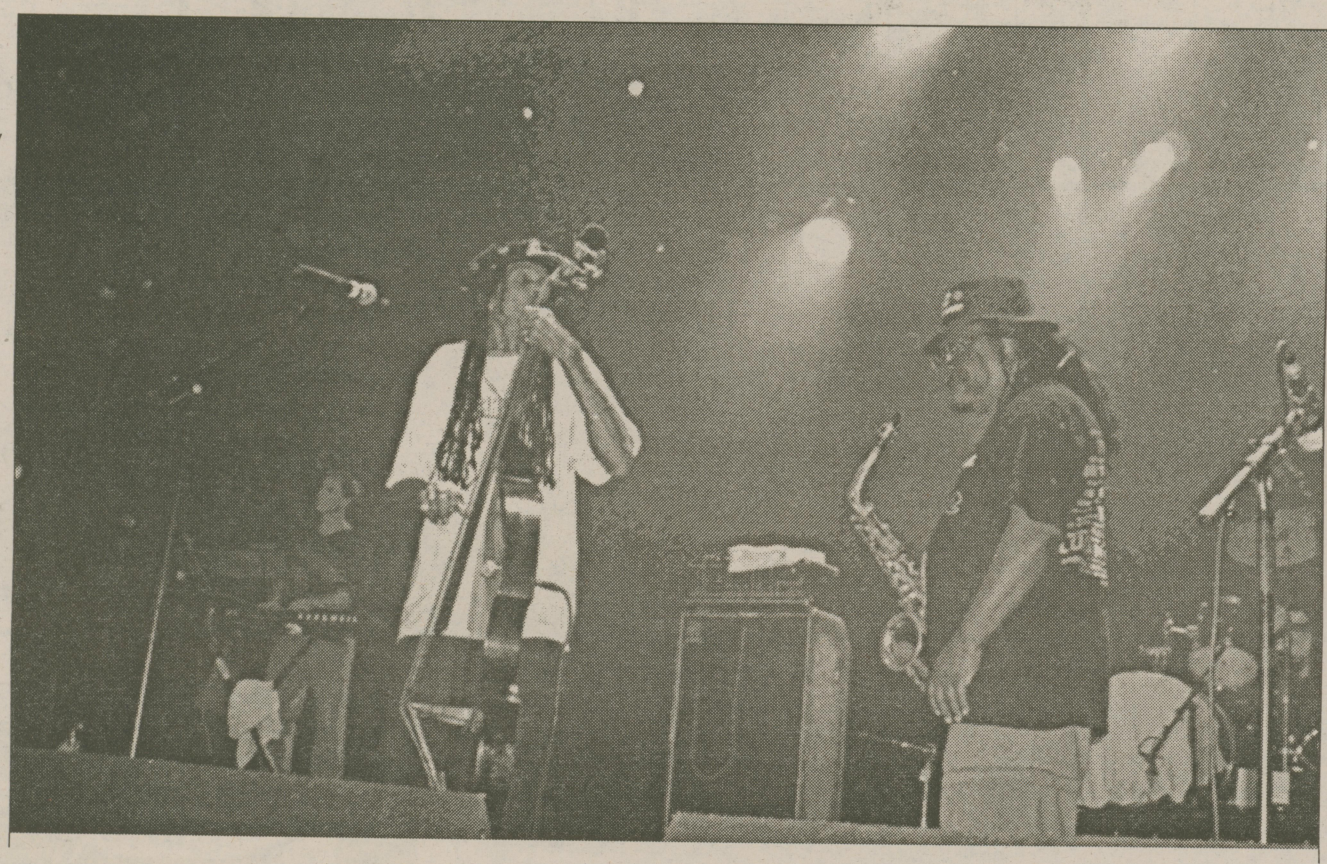
Don't waste your summer outside!
Come and volunteer for the Martlet.

Stop by room B011 in the SUB,
give us a call at 721-8360
or email martlet@uvic.ca.

You won't believe
how much fun you'll
have indoors.

Ska heavyweights came and conquered

by Keltie Craig



Dig that crazy cat, man, I like it the most! Hey-ohhh!

Legends nightclub–haven't been there for a while. But the Skatalites were playing there May 5, and as the originators of Ska in Jamaica nearly 30 years ago, I felt sure they'd justify my entry into the dank depths of Strathcona Hotel's basement.

As I surveyed the room, I was amazed to see the crowd of people that had shown up for the concert: old Rasta men with long, matted dreads, hardcore Ska kids in full suits and suspenders, young students eagerly drinking cheap beer, patch-work clad hippies, and many middle aged or older folks that may well actually remember the days when the Skatalites first began producing Jamaican Ska, Rocksteady, and Reggae in the early 1960s.

Revelation Sound, one of the warm-ups bands, was playing mellow dub when I arrived, and already the dance floor was full enough for me to realize what a sweat-fest this show was going to be. By the time Lloyd Brevett, the charismatic elderly bass player for the Skatalites, began his signature "countdown to freedom" to start the set, Legends was packed. "10-9-8-7-6-5-4-3-2-1-FREEDOM!" Brevett chanted, his belly-length dreadlocks swaying. With that, the seven-piece band began to kick it. Two saxophones, a trumpet, and a trombone made up the heavily jazz influenced brass section, while the distinctive ska beat was supplied from drums and acoustic bass combined with keyboard and guitar played on the offbeat.

With about half the band being the original crew that began as studio musicians in Kingston, Jamaica in 1964, these dudes knew how to play.

Described as a fusion of Boogie-Woogie Blues, R+B, Jazz, Mento, Calypso and African rhythms, Ska makes your feet want to move. When the Skatalites slowed things down occasionally with some Rocksteady and Reggae, it was a welcome relief for the tired dancers to be able to just groove for a while.

It wasn't until partway through the set that I realized the Skatalites were missing vocals. Although mainly an instrumental group, the band usually features guest singers. For "Simmer Down," Brevett called a friend up to provide lyrics, casually mentioning that their regular vocalist wasn't with them for this show. This was the only song that had vocal accompaniment. While the outstanding sax and trumpet solos blew the audience away, the show suffered somewhat from the missing vocals. Lyrics could have strengthened the performance, and further differentiated the songs for those of us that can't easily distinguish the nuances between Ska, Rocksteady, and Reggae beats.

Regardless, no one seemed too disappointed. In fact, many may not have even noticed the loss. The crowd was happy to hear anything Brevett and the rest put out, cheering loudly when the bass player introduced new songs in his almost unintelligible Jamaican accent.

Maybe it was the thick clouds of sweet-smelling smoke hovering throughout the room; maybe it was the exciting feel of a fast-approaching summer. Or maybe it was just the thrill of listening to one of the best Ska bands in history that made all of us dance the night away that evening in Legends.

The Good, the Bad and the Preachy: CDs for the summer

Frontside: Mix Tape vol 1.
Nettwerk
by Briony Smith

Frontside is nothing but a blatant attempt to rake in the dough from youths with poor taste and too much disposable income.

Just looking at the cover filled me with disgust. Frontside (Oooh! The record company is down with the lingo!) is emblazoned in thug-life lettering across the top of the cover. To further the "authentic" feel of this aw-shucks-we's-jest-puttin'-together-some-beats-for-y'all, the actual CD is made to look like a burned CD, complete with bronze color and album title written in a font that replicates the look of the Sharpie marker you use to label your pirated tunes.

The actual music on this CD ranges from the awful to the relatively good. There is a substantial mixing of genres, from cheery pop-punk (Not by Choice, Gob) to the funkier quasi-hip-hop grooves of Spek and Sweatshop Union to some decent techno from eminent talents Mixmaster Mike and BT, although the stand-out track is "Where's My Honey" by Lester. Moka Only's slick Steely-Dan-esque sound actually complements the song, which almost makes up for his involvement with those loathsome hoods, the Frontside-featured Swollen Members.

I was so offended by the "keepin' it real" marketing shtick employed by the bigwigs over at Nettwerk in producing Frontside that I found it hard to get into the music. I'm sure snowboarders have enough taste to make their own sweet mixtapes rather than buy this prepackaged crap.

Songs: Ohia
The Magnolia Electric Co.
Secretly Canadian Records
by Nicolas Frenette

My Dad would like this record a lot. It would make him nostalgic of his younger days when he listened to Neil Young, Bob Dylan, and Bob Seger.

It is said that each Songs: Ohia record is different because singer/songwriter Jason Molina works with different musicians on each occasion, but The Magnolia Electric Co is musically very far from his earlier work. Recorded live by Steve Albini, there is a thematic preoccupation with change on Molina's seventh full-length album. Fans of older Songs: Ohia will still find the songs permeated with melancholy, sensitivity, and loneliness along the same lines as Palace, but the country sensibilities are exacerbated on this record. And while the music remains folksy, it also has, as the band's press release suggests, elements of working class rock, swamp rock, and white soul.

You only have two tracks to skip whilst listening to this album: "I've Been Riding with the Ghost" is an overly cheesy rock song that does not even attain monster truck shows' musical standards and "The Old Black Hen" is a boring country croon sung by Lawrence Peters. The rest of the record is a gem. The opening track, "Farewell Transmission", will hook you right away with Molina's usual haunted melodies combined with a catchy opening lap steel riff, and meditating accompanying instrumentation. Miss Scout Niblett sings the slow "Peoria Lunch Box Blues" with painful beauty, reminiscent of Axxess & Ace and The Lioness.

Overall, the new sound of Songs: Ohia works; it includes enough elements of Molina's earlier work to keep his fans happy while making everyone wonder what he'll do next.

Noam Chomsky
The New War on Terrorism: Fact and Fiction
G7 Welcoming Committee/AK Press

Ward Churchill
In a Pig's Eye: Reflections on the Police State and Native America
G7 Welcoming Committee/AK Press
by Jeb Gordon

These two new spoken word CDs are the Canadian pressings of the AK press co-releases available in the U.S.A. through Alternative Tentacles.

They raise an interesting question: who is the audience? The CDs feature academic writers discussing topics that they have previously covered in various books, like Chomsky's Power and Terror: Post 9/11 Talks and Interviews (Seven Stories Press, 2003) and 9-11 (Seven Stories Press, 2002) or Churchill's Agents of Repression: The FBI's Secret Wars Against the Black Panther Party and the American Indian Movement (with Jim Vander Wall, South End Press) and A Little Matter of Genocide: Holocaust and Denial in the Americas, 1492 to the Present (City Light Books). As such, one could find almost all the information covered in these lectures, with footnotes and references, in a written format. If this is the case what is the point of a CD release?

This question has no clear answer. CDs allow information to be quickly pressed and allow those uninterested in reading the books to digest the information.

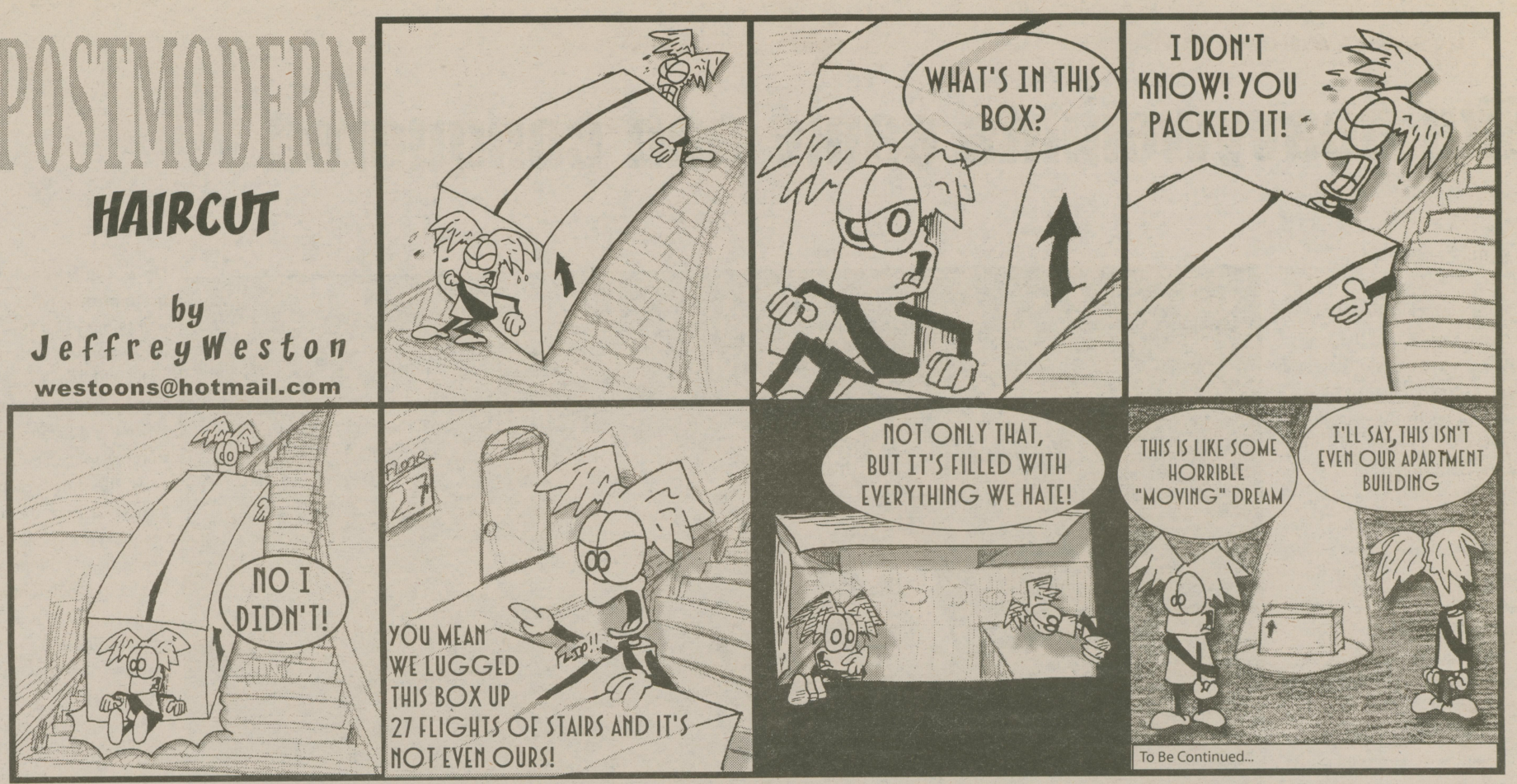
These answers both still leave the problem of, why a CD? Books can be rushed to press, journal articles can be written and many other quick-to-press options exist.

Then are these CDs for people who choose not to read? If so, they're just perfect for the beer drinking anarcho-punks who don't feel like reading books, but still want to keep up on the correct political views. But the format creates a problem, for if you accept the ideas simply on face value, as one must with a CD, how is the information any better than that supplied by the mainstream media? This creates the problem of simply trusting different sources to tell you the truth. Especially in the case of Chomsky, this seems to fly in the face of what he has stood for over the years.

Not to sound completely negative. These CDs contain interesting speeches and the recording quality is great, but why does the American progressive movement seem to be falling in with the cult of personality and emphasizing style over substance?

POSTMODERN HAIRCUT

by
Jeffrey Weston
westoons@hotmail.com


WHAT'S IN THIS BOX?
I DON'T KNOW! YOU PACKED IT!
NO I DIDN'T!
Floor 27
YOU MEAN WE LUGGED THIS BOX UP 27 FLIGHTS OF STAIRS AND IT'S NOT EVEN OURS!
FLIP!!
NOT ONLY THAT, BUT IT'S FILLED WITH EVERYTHING WE HATE!
THIS IS LIKE SOME HORRIBLE "MOVING" DREAM
I'LL SAY, THIS ISN'T EVEN OUR APARTMENT BUILDING
To Be Continued...

Billboards

on campus

A Celebration of Nature and Place hosted by the School of Environmental Studies is taking place on Saturday, May 31st from 1-5pm in the Centre for Innovative Teaching (CIT). Students, faculty and staff will be joining individuals and groups from throughout the Victoria community to celebrate past achievements and future hopes for UVic's School of Environmental Studies. We invite you all to join us for this fun day, which will include a panel discussion featuring MC Briony Penn, ecology hikes, snacks and refreshments and fun activities for kids. Hope to see you there!

MEDITATION class on the inner Light and Sound, using the principles of Sant Mat and the teachings of Sant Thakar Singh. Free, all are welcome. Tuesday, May 27, 7pm. Room B025, downstairs, UVic Student Union Bldg. (located across from the bus depot) www.santmat.net

Are we all in this Together?
Harm Reduction as a means of Addressing Drug Addiction in Victoria
This free public forum will be held at the Centre for Innovative Teaching at the University of Victoria on Friday, May 23, 2003 from 7-9 pm. Panelists will include representatives from the drug user community, the Victoria City Council, the business community, the law enforcement community and the health outreach community. All members of the public are welcome. For more information, please see http://web.uvic.ca/~mpass or contact Cecilia at clei@uvic.ca for more information.

off campus

Twenty Cloned Brians is back to work and we're doing another double bill. This time around it is Tennesee Williams. We will be presenting: "**A Perfect Analysis Given By a Parrot**" and "**I Can't Imagine Tomorrow**." These are two of Williams' short works. Shows will run June 4-7 (Wednesday thru Saturday) at La Run, 1983 Fairfield Rd. Show time is 8:00pm, doors at 7:00pm. Tix are $10.00. The capacity at La Run is 50. Due to this limit, we are encouraging people to book tickets in advance. Tickets will be sold at the door but space is not guaranteed. E-mail theatrepeople@hotmail.com or call our info line at 995-5958.

From Orcas to Oystercatchers: Orca Pass - Where it all connects. Georgia Strait Alliance sponsors a multi-media evening with photographer Gary Woodward and biologist Dr. Rob Butler highlighting local wildlife and the importance of Orca Pass, a cross-border citizens effort to establish an international stewardship area in the shared waters of Canada's Gulf Islands and the US San Juan Islands. Saturday, May 31 7:30 pm, St. Ann's Academy, 835 Humbolt St., Victoria. Admission by donation.

announcements

Georgia Strait Alliance Annual General Meeting, Saturday, May 31 2-5 pm. Bedford Regency Hotel, 1140 Government St., Victoria. All welcome, members are eligible to vote.

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Let the job search begin!
The Hire-a-Student office is open for the summer of 2003. We are ready to assist businesses and youth in fulfilling their summer employment needs. The Hire-a-Student office provides job postings, interview advice, resume building, casual labour, and job search strategies. Visit us at #101-3939 Quadra St. M-F, 8:30am-4:30pm or call 363-0344.

accommodations

Room for rent in a house on Scott St. near Hillside Mall, on bus route. Bathroom, kitchen, living rm., fully furnished. Available between May 1st and June 20th 2003. $300 incl. utilities for period between May 1st and June 20th. Contact Antoine: (604)926-5072 or Brenden (250)598-7883

hey you

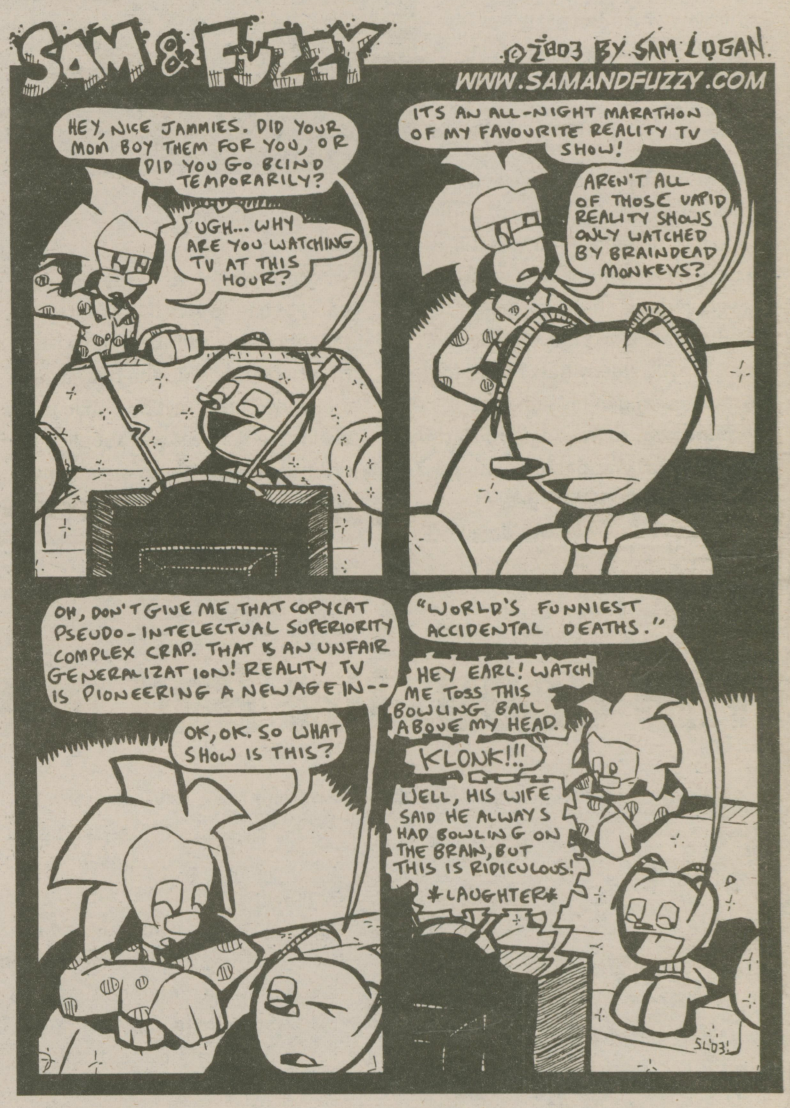
Quit playing with my hair and give me my hair tie back. You didn't even introduce yourself, for shame.

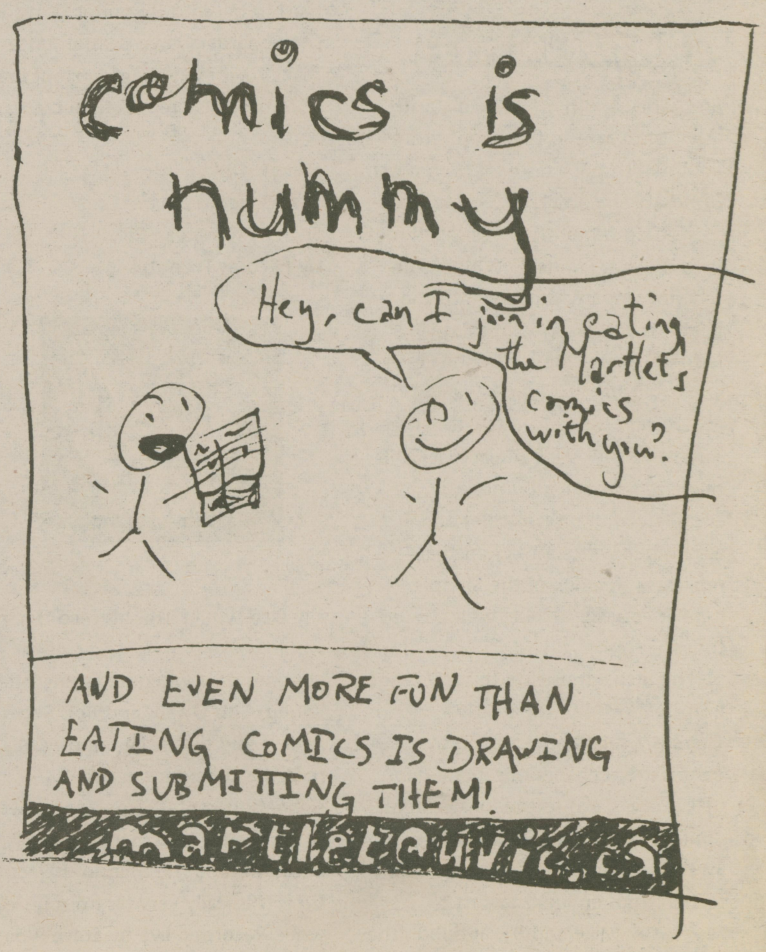
You know how sometimes you'll be sitting in the computer lab and the ominous whirring of the machines and the infernal clickity-clackety of the mindless drones efficiently working away on their essays start to make your head throb and swim and you just want to jump up and scream and spin, spin, SPIN? Yeah, you know the feeling. But then you don't give in to the urge; you sit there, being one of the drones, sitting in silence, staring blankly at the glowing phosphours of the cathode ray tube, slowly being sterilized by its radiation glow. One time, though. One time you will do it. And that is when I will love you.

You: bus 25 Maplewood, stringy, light yellow, meat sauce
Me: bus 25 Maplewood, human form, unsauced
I likes me the spaghetti. Let's get together & make us some dinner. I want you inside me.

Billboard Rates

students & clubs	$2/issue
non-students	$2/line
businesses	$5.50/3 lines + $2/extra line
hey you!	free!


SAM & FUZZY
©2003 BY SAM LOGAN
WWW.SAMANDFUZZY.COM
HEY, NICE JAMMIES. DID YOUR MOM BOY THEM FOR YOU, OR DID YOU GO BLIND TEMPORARILY?
UGH... WHY ARE YOU WATCHING TV AT THIS HOUR?
IT'S AN ALL-NIGHT MARATHON OF MY FAVOURITE REALITY TV SHOW!
AREN'T ALL OF THOSE VAPID REALITY SHOWS ONLY WATCHED BY BRAINDEAD MONKEYS?
OH, DON'T GIVE ME THAT COPYCAT PSEUDO-INTELECTUAL SUPERIORITY COMPLEX CRAP. THAT IS AN UNFAIR GENERALIZATION! REALITY TV IS PIONEERING A NEW AGE IN--
OK, OK. SO WHAT SHOW IS THIS?
"WORLD'S FUNNIEST ACCIDENTAL DEATHS."
HEY EARL! WATCH ME TOSS THIS BOWLING BALL ABOVE MY HEAD.
KLONK!!!
WELL, HIS WIFE SAID HE ALWAYS HAD BOWLING ON THE BRAIN, BUT THIS IS RIDICULOUS!
LAUGHTER
SL03!


comics is nummy
Hey, can I join in eating the Martlet's comics with you?
AND EVEN MORE FUN THAN EATING COMICS IS DRAWING AND SUBMITTING THEM!
martlet@uvic.ca